

***Statement***

***Insurance Association of Connecticut***

**Appropriations Committee**

**March 31, 2011**

**SB 183, An Act Creating A Separate Non-Lapsing Vaccine  
And Antibiotic Purchase Account Within The General Fund**

The Insurance Association of Connecticut (IAC) opposes SB 183, An Act Creating A Separate Non-Lapsing Vaccine And Antibiotic Purchase Account Within The General Fund.

IAC represents several domestic life insurers that are required, under current law, to pay a “health and welfare fee” to the General Fund to pay in part for the vaccine and antibiotic program established by C.G.S. 19a-7j. We continue to assert that assessing domestic life insurers for the costs of such a program is fundamentally unfair.

We do not question the importance of the program. However, life insurers have no more to do with vaccines/antibiotics than banks, manufacturers or any other industry in the state. However laudable, the vaccine/antibiotic program is clearly something that should be funded by the General Fund, and not by assessments against a particular industry.

SB 183 will only serve to exacerbate that unfairness, as it will move the “health and welfare fee account” into a separate, non-lapsing account. SB 183 would remove any standard budgetary strictures from the account, which will likely lead to further growth in the fiscal size of the account and the functions it funds. Domestic life insurers’ cost of doing business in Connecticut will be increased by the requirement that they bear the burden of a portion of an ever-expanding financial liability that should not be theirs to bear.